



**CITY OF DANBURY
FIRE DEPARTMENT
19 NEW STREET
DANBURY, CONNECTICUT 06810**

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FIRE CHIEF'S MONTHLY REPORT

I hereby submit my report as Fire Chief of the Danbury Fire Department, which covers the period of June 21st, 2016 through July 21st, 2016 and details activities of the Department.



Sitting under the stars by a crackling fire has its appeal. It's where stories are told, sing-a-longs happen, and meals are cooked over an open flame. Campfires bring family and friends together. But campfire mishaps can cause injuries. With a few safety tips, you can prevent these accidents.

SAFETY AROUND THE FIRE

- » Before setting up a campfire, be sure it is permitted. Check with your local fire department.
- » If campfires are permitted, they need to be at least 25 feet away from any structure and anything that can burn.
- » Clear away dry leaves and sticks, overhanging low branches and shrubs.
- » Avoid burning on windy, dry days. It is easier for open burning to spread out of control when it is windy and dry.
- » Watch children while the fire is burning. Never let children or pets play or stand too close to the fire.
- » Attend to the campfire at all times. A campfire left alone for only a few minutes can grow into a damaging fire.
- » Keep a campfire small which is easier to control.
- » Never use gasoline or other flammable or combustible liquids.
- » Always have a hose, bucket of water, or shovel and dirt or sand nearby to put out the fire. Make sure to put it completely out before leaving the site.
- » If your clothes catch fire, stop, drop, and roll. Stop, drop to the ground and cover your face with your hands. Roll over and over or back and forth until the fire is out.
- » Treat a burn right away. Cool the burn with cool water for 3 to 5 minutes. Cover with a clean, dry cloth. Get medical help if needed.



ROAST WITH CARE

If roasting marshmallows, help young children. Never shake a roasting marshmallow. It can turn into a flying, flaming ball. A heated metal skewer can cause burns.

FACT

Campfire accidents send thousands of people to emergency rooms with burn injuries every year.



Your Source for SAFETY Information
NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

Public Education / Prevention / Public Relations

Building familiarization was conducted at 5, 7, 9, 11 Main Street consisting of walk through and checking KX keys if available.

E23 checked out access to 286 Main Street area from Tower Place. All companies did airport familiarization at Danbury Airport

Members assisted Capt. Forbes and FF Perrotti cleaning Truck 1 for participation in Funeral Procession for retired Bethel Police Lt. Kennedy. C30 coordinated with Bethel FD, New Fairfield FD Truck Company, and Danbury Fire Truck 1 in raising a flag over Hayestown Ave for the funeral.



Command and Staff Activities

- Chief Baker's Retirement Luncheon
- Purchasing procedures/updates training
- Mayor's Cup
- Public Servants Appreciation Day lunch given by Green Funeral Home at Hatters Park
- HQ addition meeting with Planning & Zoning and Architect
- Phoenix Hose pump retro fit meeting
- Swearing-in of new Police Chief Ridenhour
- Volunteer Fire Council meeting
- ICS review meeting with Deputy Chiefs & Training Officer

- Vehicle purchase meeting
- Hiring Rules meeting
- City Council meeting
- Dispatch oversight meetings with IXP and the PD
- Monthly EMS/Dispatch steering committee

Communications/911 – Communications Coordinator Jamie Gagliardo

- Attending the Fire Officer 1 Course taught by the Connecticut Fire Academy at the new fire training facility. This course will run on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the next two months.
- Attended a Pump and Vehicle Committee meeting to finalize plans for the purchase of the recently approved new pumpers.
- June 29th Northeastern Communications and the Communications Division re-inventoried and inspected all vehicles to prepare for the upcoming mobile radio install project.
- The mobile radio replacement project started July 5th. Our vendor, Northeastern, is installing the radios in each fire apparatus over the next two months. This requires daily vehicle install scheduling and installation working directly with the Apparatus Division and the Suppression Division.
- Communications Division created a “Major Alarm Tone” to assist in streamlining the dispatch of all agencies involved in a large scale incident. This tone will allow the dispatcher to hit one tone that will alert both the Career Division and the Volunteer Division along with Danbury Hospital EMS of a large incident. This project is also runs parallel with the pagers purchased for the Volunteer Division and the changeover to the UHF radio system.
- Communications hosted a phone conference with Chief Wiedl and Northeastern Communications to start our first piece of the Infrastructure Upgrade Project. This helped refresh every party involved on our goals and prioritize the radio sites within the city.
- Met with the Pump Committee and the Pierce Sales Representative to finalize the drawings on the new pumps in the build process.
- Part of the Mobile Radio Install Project was reprogramming and inspecting the existing UHF radios. A full day was spent working on all the city units that currently have UHF radios.
- Communications worked through a few radio system malfunctions the last few days mostly due to the heat of summer. All problems were resolved.
- Ongoing projects:

- Radio system infrastructure upgrades including replacement mobile and portable radios for all fire department members and apparatus with assistance from Northeastern Communications.
- The Communications Division and the Training Division are in the process of updating many of the Danbury Fire Department Standard Operating Procedures. Once updates and additions are drafted, they go through a review process prior to being placed in the live version.

Meetings and events:

- June 27th – Pump and Vehicle Committee meeting
- June 28th – Fire Officer 1 Course
- June 29th – Meeting with Northeastern- Mobile Radio Project
- June 30th – Fire Officer 1 Course
- July 5th – Start of Mobile Radio Install Project
- July 5th – Fire Officer 1
- July 6th – Northeastern Technician Console Update
- July 7th – Fire Officer 1
- July 11th – Conference call Northeastern – Infrastructure
- July 12th – Fire Officer 1
- July 12th – Call Review meeting – Exit 2
- July 14th – Fire Officer 1
- July 15th – Pump Committee Meeting – Pierce Rep
- July 17th – Spruce Mtn. Tower issues/repair
- July 18th – Northeastern existing UHF re-programming
- July 18th – Low Band Radio issues/repairs
- July 19th – Fire Officer 1 Course
- July 20th – Live Burn at Fire School with Volunteer Division

Training – Training Officer Steve Rogers

Volunteer Division

Quarterly

We had Live Burn for Engines 5, 8, 10, Squads 6 and 7.

Volunteer Firefighter Recruits

Volunteer officers are continuing weekly training on ladders, hose drills and SCBA operations.

Career Division

ICS

Chief Wiedl, A/C Omasta, TO Rogers and the 4 Deputy Chiefs met at fire school to refine ICS outline and Power Points.

Foam Training

We demoed F-500 “wet water” with D group. We reviewed Class Region 5’s foam trailer housed at Engine Company 26 with Pump Ops Class. This regional asset

provides Danbury and the region the ability to mitigate various hazards. We are training on foam, foam equipment, foam operations, and foam application.

ICS

Classes along with table top drills still continue with all personnel. We've incorporated the new ICS SOP as part of our curriculum.

Airport

Airport familiarization classes have started and the entire department has been scheduled to train on site at the airport.

Fire Officer One

Danbury hosted a state certified Fire Officer One Class. We had Communications Coordinator Gagilardo and Firefighters Guard and Rivera attend the class.

ARFF

ARFF practical has been scheduled for September 15th at Westover AFB in Massachusetts. There are currently 15 individuals scheduled to attend training.

Kaplan

We have begun transitioning from Kaplan to Fire Academy platform for entire fire department. Courses will be assigned in the near future.

Fire School

The fire school on 23 Plumtrees Rd was utilized for the Firefighter I class and Foam training.

ARFF review

Our Airport Rescue Fire Fighters are scheduled for their annual refresher training at Danbury Airport with Asst. Airport Administrator Mike Safranek.

Hydrants

Hydrant testing is in full swing.

Items of Note

- D-group toured new Regional Hospice building
- Flag pole installed at Fire School
- Burn Building exterior block was repaired
- Fire School AC was repaired
- Hospital Heli-pad Foam Training
- Pump Ops Class drafted with E-12's equipment

Meetings/Events for the Training Officer:

- ☐ June 20 – SOP Revisions with CC Gagilardo, AC repair at Fire School and Candlewood Live Burn
- ☐ June 21 – Staff Meeting
- ☐ June 22 – Deputy Chief Staff Meeting
- ☐ June 23 – Airport Safety Meeting
- ☐ June 23 – Regional Fire Meeting

- ☐ June 30 – Meeting with Chief and A/C
- ☐ July 6 – Q Endorsement Class
- ☐ July 7 – Meeting with Chief, A/C, and Engine 8 crew
- ☐ July 11 week – Pump ops and Fire Officer class administration
- ☐ July 20 – Met Lt. Cabral for opening ceremonies
- ☐ July 20 – Live burn with Engine 5
- ☐ July 21 – Live burn at Fire School with D-group
- ☐ July 21 – Meeting with Regional Fire Schools



Apparatus / Equipment – Superintendent Joe Cavo

The Edraulic cutter which failed its pressure test and had to be returned to the factory for repair has been returned to service. One of the Hydraulic cutters from Squad-1 which required a new set of cutter blades has also been repaired and returned to service. Truck-1 is back in service after having its radiator replaced. We are still experiencing some ladder bedding issues and are working with the Pierce service division to get to the cause of this issue. During our transmission services we discovered that E-26 had Ethylene glycol (antifreeze) in the transmission. The most logical way that ethylene glycol and transmission fluid can cross paths is from a defective transmission cooler. This cooler generally resides in the lower radiator tank. We replaced the lower radiator tank while the radiator remained in the Engine. We serviced the transmission and seeing as the transmission is operating properly and has no codes, we are hopeful that the contamination was recent and has caused no long term damage. We will be monitoring this unit closely. 10PA1 broke a unique

bellowed pipe in the exhaust system. We have replaced the pipe and this unit is back in service.

Other repairs completed:

- Replaced saw starter for K950
- Replaced oil galley plug in Truck-1 engine
- Replaced rear leaf springs, hangers and bushings E-24
- Repaired broken valve mount (pump panel) E-22
- Sent Evolution Thermal Imaging Camera out for repair
- Repaired rear cab door R-1
- Replaced heater hose assemblies in C-30
- Repaired coolant leak in upper radiator pipe E-26
- Multiple S.C.B.A. repairs including masks, Voice amps and hydro testing

Community Risk Reduction Office of the Fire Marshal – Fire Marshal Jim Russell

Inspections

This month we inspected 249 apartments. We also did 31 misc. inspections, 5 liquor inspections, 8 places of assembly, 34 businesses, 1 day care, and 18 educational occupancies. There were 3 health care inspections and 30 mercantile inspections. We have been working with the UNIT and Health Department to find illegal living spaces and overcrowded apartments. This month we also inspected the Police Department Building at 375 Main St.

Plan Reviews

Our team continues to spend time doing plan reviews. This month we spent 45 hours reviewing plans for the Danbury High Addition, 36 A Padanaram Rd, Wells Fargo Bank, Texas Road House, Walgreens, and several remodels in the Danbury Fair Mall.

Fire Investigations

This month we had 3 building fires, 2 vehicle fires, and 18 rubbish/garbage/grass/other types of fires. Investigations were done on all fires.

Training

This month we attended 4 hours of continuing education training. We also trained on using our Fire Extinguisher Training Prop. This prop uses propane to simulate a real fire, and uses special fire extinguishers to put out the fire. It gives people a real feel for using a fire extinguisher in a safe and clean manner. We will be giving training to many corporate and business employees through the summer and into the fall season.

Ongoing Projects

Kennedy Flats Apartments has completed building #1. Final inspections have been made. Building #2 is moving along very well and is the last building to be completed in this 374-unit project.

Fireworks Shows / Code Enforcement

This year there were three fireworks shows in Danbury. We worked at each show along with a fire truck and 3 man crew. We are required to work at these shows by State Statute, making sure all Fire Codes are followed. The shows were at Candlewood Lake, Danbury Mall, and Ridgewood Country Club.

We also worked Code Enforcement at the Bacon and Brew Festival at City Center.

Great Job by our Staff

On Wednesday, July 20, 2016 DFM Tyler Bergemann and DFM Terry Timan were doing a fire inspection at 48 Franklin Street. While they were there, they noticed the smell of natural gas coming from the house next door at number 50. They went to investigate the odor of gas, and not being able to locate the source, they called in the authorities to investigate. When Yankee Gas arrived, they found that a gas line in the basement had rotted, leaking gas into the basement and other areas of the home. The situation was made safe by Yankee Gas, and the situation ended on a positive note. Deputy Fire Marshals Bergemann and Timan will be written up for an award for their quick response to this incident. Great job!!

Department Statistical Reports

Community Risk Reduction

Monthly inspections	620
Abatements issued	2
Violations issued	1
Complaints	2
Fire Investigations	8
Fire Safety Programs	1

Public Safety Answering Point

Total 911 calls	3263
Cellular 911 calls	2353
Abandoned 911 calls	332
Admin calls received	827